

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

I. General Remarks and Disposition of the Claims

Claims 1-32 are pending in this application. Claims 12-13 have been canceled. Claims 10, 14, and 16 are currently amended.

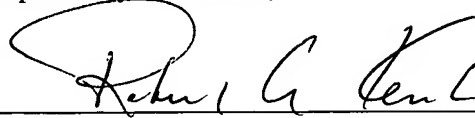
The Examiner previously objected to claims 13-17 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that such claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. *See* (Final Office Action at 3). Applicants have amended claim 10 to include all the limitations of now-canceled claim 13 and any applicable intervening claims. The Examiner has designated the remaining claims, specifically claims 1-9 and 18-32, as being drawn to allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request a notice of allowance of claims 1-32.

SUMMARY

In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections. Applicants further submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and earnestly solicit timely notice of the same. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments, or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone, facsimile, or electronic mail.

Applicants believe that no additional fees are due in association with the filing of this Response. However, should the Commissioner deem that any additional fees are due, including any fees for extensions of time, the Commissioner is authorized to debit the Deposit Account of Halliburton Energy Services, Inc., No. 08-0300, for any underpayment of fees that may be due in association with this filing.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert A. Kent", written over a horizontal line.

Robert A. Kent
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